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House Approves a Measure To Aid Cambodian Rebels

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WASHINGTON, July 9 — The House voted today to approve \$5 million in military and economic aid to the non-Communist rebels in Cambodia.

The vote was 288 to 122.

On the same vote, the House rejected an amendment that would have limited the \$5 million to humanitarian aid, including food and medicine.

The action, on an amendment to the foreign aid authorization bill for 1986 and 1987, marks the first time that the House has approved aid to forces fighting Vietnam's occupation of Cambodia.

The House measure, which is identical to one approved earlier this year by the Senate, prohibits any aid to the Khmer Rouge, the Communist faction that ruled Cambodia from 1975 to 1979 and is accused of killing some two million citizens.

The House Foreign Affairs Committee had approved \$5 million in aid, including military assistance, to be funneled through the Thai Government. The rebels are operating from areas along the Thai-Cambodian border.

Senate Provisions Substituted

But the full House approved an amendment offered by Representative Stephen J. Solarz, Democrat of Brooklyn, that substituted the provisions set by the Senate. Under the amendment, the funds are to be distributed through the Reagan Administration.

Mr. Solarz offered his amendment as a substitute for one proposed by Representative Jim Leach, Republican of Iowa, that would have limited the \$5 million to humanitarian assistance.

Mr. Leach, in opposing military aid to the rebels, said, "It is not enough to conclude that the cause is just." But Mr. Solarz said the aid would "send a very strong signal to the Vietnamese."

Earlier, Representative Lee H. Hamilton, Democrat of Indiana and chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, questioned whether military aid could be sent only to the non-Communist rebels and kept from the Khmer Rouge.

Mr. Hamilton told reporters that he feared the \$5 million would be the first installment in a long-term commitment in Indochina. "We can't seriously believe we're going to throw the Viet-

namese out of Cambodia with a few million dollars," he said.

Mr. Hamilton, who as committee chairman is briefed on covert intelligence activities, declined to discuss reports that the Central Intelligence Agency is spending about \$5 million to assist Cambodian rebels this year. But he said he felt the covert aid was preferable to the military assistance proposed by Mr. Solarz.

"The overt aid is military," he said. "The covert aid is nonmilitary."

Administration Opposes Bill

The action on Cambodia came as the House opened debate on the foreign aid bill. The Administration opposes the House bill because it prohibits military aid to Jordan until the kingdom publicly recognizes Israel and enters peace negotiations. In addition, the bill authorizes more for economic and development aid and less for military aid than President Reagan asked.

The Senate has approved a \$12.8 billion foreign aid authorization bill that the Administration supports.

On its first vote, the House overwhelmingly approved a freeze in the foreign aid authorization for 1986 and 1987, which would limit funds for each year to \$12.6 billion — \$700 million less than the Reagan Administration has requested and about \$500 million less than approved by the House Foreign Affairs Committee. The freeze would not affect aid to Israel or Egypt.

The amendment, approved 386 to 2, was proposed by the Foreign Affairs Committee chairman, Representative Dante B. Fascell, Democrat of Florida, in an effort to gain support for the bill.

In a test on military aid, the House voted 279 to 125 against an amendment to restore \$60 million in military aid to the Philippines. The Administration requested \$100 million in military aid, but the House approved only \$25 million and transferred \$60 million to economic assistance.

On a voice vote, the House reduced military aid for Turkey from \$740 million to \$711 million.